

REMARKS

Claims 5-8 and 10-17 are amended. Claims 1-4, 9, 18-21, 24-33 are cancelled. Claims 34-36 are added. Claims 5-8, 10-17, 22, 23, and 34-36 are pending in the application. The amendments to the claims as indicated herein do not add any new matter to this application.

SUMMARY OF THE OBJECTIONS/REJECTIONS

Claims 1-4, 6, and 8-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,185,619 to Joffe et al. ("Joffe") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,167,444 to Boden et al. ("Boden"). Claims 1-4, 9, 18-21, and 23-33 have been cancelled, thereby obviating the rejections of those claims.

Claims 5 and 7 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The first Office Action indicated that Claims 5 and 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 5 has been rewritten in this manner. Therefore, Applicants request that the objection to Claim 5 be withdrawn.

CLAIMS 6-8, 10-17, 22, 23, and 34

As presented in this reply, Claims 6-8, 10-17, 22, 23, and 34 all depend from Claim 5, and therefore include all of the limitations of Claim 5. Because Claim 5, as rewritten in independent form, is patentable over the cited references, Claims 6-8, 10-17, 22, 23, and 34 are also patentable over the cited references.

CLAIMS 35 AND 36

Claims 35 recites a computer-readable medium carrying instructions for performing the method of Claim 5. Claim 36 recites an apparatus comprising means for performing the method of Claim 5. Because Claim 5 is patentable over the cited references, Claims 35 and 36 are also patentable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is believed next in order, and that action is most earnestly solicited.

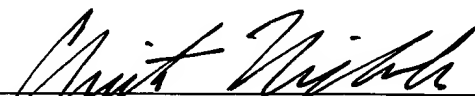
The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

If any applicable fee is missing or insufficient, throughout the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any applicable fees and to credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 28, 2005



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

on July 28, 2005

by 